

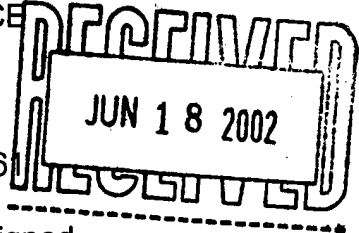


PATENT

Docket No. BOC9-2001-0025 (271)

2161
#2
6.18.2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re Application of: Fitzpatrick, *et al.*

Application No.: 10/081,702

Group Art Unit: 2161

Filed: February 22, 2002

Examiner: Unassigned

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR CONNECTING BUSINESSES
THROUGH COMMON INTERESTS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

Date 5/22/02

Kevin T. Cuenot
Kevin T. Cuenot

Reg. No. 46,283

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please find enclosed the following for filing:

- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO-1449
- ☒ Please charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0951
- ☒ Other: (1) Postcard

This Transmittal Letter is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 5/22/02

Kevin T. Cuenot

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Docket No. BOC9-2001-0025 (271)

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MAY 29 2002
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JUN 14 2002
GROUP 3600



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Kevin T. Cuenot
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Reg. No. 46,283

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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JUN 14 2002

GROUP 3600

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date, or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits and, therefore, no certification under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Patent Appln. No. 10/081,702
Docket No.: BOC9-2001-0025 (271)

The submission of the listed document is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove the listed documents as competent references against the claims of the present application.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 5/22/02

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Docket No. BOC9-2001-0025 (271)

Form PTO-1449
(Rev. 2-88)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY. DOCKET NO.
BOC9-2001-
0025 (271)APPLICATION NO.
10/081,702INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BY APPLICANTAPPLICANT
Fitzpatrick, et al.FILING DATE
02/22/02GROUP
2161

MAY 29 2002

Technology Center 2100

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER'S INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|-----------------------|-----------------|----------|---------------------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
| | 5,659,731 | 08/19/97 | Gustafson | 395 | 604 | 06/19/95 |
| | 5,918,222 | 06/29/99 | Fukui, et al. | 707 | 1 | 03/15/96 |
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| | 6,112,181 | 08/29/00 | Shear, et al. | 705 | 1 | 11/06/97 |
| | 6,125,391 | 09/26/00 | Meltzer, et al. | 709 | 223 | 10/16/98 |
| | 6,133,914 | 10/17/00 | Rogers, et al. | 345 | 334 | 01/07/98 |
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| | 6,205,478 | 03/20/01 | Sugano, et al. | 709 | 223 | 12/30/98 |
| | 09/921,856 | — | Fitzpatrick, et al. | 709 | — | 08/02/01 |
| | 09/933,284 | — | Fitzpatrick, et al. | 705 | — | 08/20/01 |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION | |
|--|-----------------|----------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
| | | | | | | YES | NO |
| | WO 00/11671 | 03/02/00 | WIPO | G11B | 19/00 | X | |

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| | | P.K. Kannan, et al., <i>Electronic Communities in E-Business: Their Role and Issues</i> , Information Systems Frontiers, Vol. 1, No. 4, pp. 415-426, (Apr. 2000). |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

* EXAMINER: Initial if a citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.